

remote situation from market, oppose to a profitable disposition of her surplus produce. To remove these, is not within any of the means, to which our Legislature can resort, with justice to other sections of the State. Sir, if the treasure of the United States was lavished upon the West, these disadvantages would still exist to a considerable extent.

This charge, Mr. Chairman, of a "narrow and contracted, illiberal and unjust" policy, implies a considerable compliment to the West, at the expense of the East. It is in effect saying, that all just and liberal views of policy belong to the West. Sir, I will not arrogate such pretensions to the section of the State to which I belong; but I will remark, that such a charge from the West is on evidence that more enlightened views are entertained there, than in the East, and gives rise to suspicions that the opposite extreme to that which they reprobate, to wit, profligacy and extravagance, might characterize their policy should they succeed in their scheme of Convention.

Another argument is urged by the resolutions, and has been repeated in debate. It is said "local jealousies and divisions" exist, which a Convention will remove. Mr. Chairman, who gave rise to these "local jealousies and divisions?" The East? No, sir, so long as our Western brethren were satisfied with the present Constitution, they were unknown, and we were what the resolutions propose to make us by a Convention, "one people." But as soon as they discovered that by assuming another basis of representation, they would acquire more political influence in the government, they became dissatisfied, and have been since struggling to obtain that power, which they desire, by a Convention, when it was likely to succeed, and at other times, by the erection of new counties. The East has done nothing more than strive to maintain the existing government, and preserve that which our ancestors bequeathed. Nor in this, has she done any thing unnatural or unjust. Those "local jealousies and divisions" then, thus occasioned and kept alive, are urged upon the East, by the West, with about as good grace, as if one tenant in common were to wrangle with his co-tenant, for not yielding him his interest in the estate, and should then urge as a reason for so doing, the ill feeling thus occasioned. Such a proposition, seriously made and insisted upon, could scarcely fail to excite some indignation; and has nothing persuasive in it, when urged by the West upon the East.

But, Mr. Chairman, they say, they have right on their side as well as considerations of expediency. Here then we are again at issue. I have already said, I view the question as a struggle between the Eastern and Western sections of the State; it is therefore important to ascertain, as near as we can, the division between